

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)
COMBINED WITH POWER OF ATTORNEY**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing	<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16(e)) required)	Attorney Docket Number	CM02023K
		First Named Inventor	Gary M. Rapps
		Application Number	N/A
		Filing Date	December 14, 2001
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular (Utility) Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Design application	Group Art Unit	N/A
		Examiner Name	N/A

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

SELF-RETAINING ELEMENT FOR A BEHIND-THE-EAR COMMUNICATION DEVICE

the specification of which:

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed::

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Provisional Application Serial No.:	
Provisional Application Filing Date:	

I hereby claim the priority benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which is material to the patentability of this application and which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Prior U.S. Application(s):

no such application(s) filed
 such application(s) identified as follows:

Application No.	Filing Date (day, month, year)	Status (Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

I hereby declare that: as to any claimed subject matter of this application which is common to my earlier United States or foreign application(s), if any, which I have identified above and claimed the benefit of priority thereof, I do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to the first of said earlier application(s), or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the first of said earlier application(s), and that the said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate before the date of the first of said earlier U.S. application(s) in any country foreign to the United States on an application, filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months (six months if the present application is a Design patent application) prior to the first of said earlier U.S. application(s), if any; and that, as to any claimed subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application(s), if any, I do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before my invention thereof or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to the date of this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to the date of this application, and that said subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months (six months if the present application is a Design patent application) prior to the date of this application.

I hereby appoint the attorney(s) or agent(s) associated with: Customer Number 22917 to prosecute this application and transact all business in the patent and trademark office connected therewith.

Address all telephone calls to:

Terri S. Hughes
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Address all correspondence to: Customer Number 22917

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first-named or sole inventor		GARY M. RAPPS	
Inventor's signature			Date <u>DEC 13, 2001</u>
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